

SOAP COMPANY CLEANS UP ENERGY USE, GENERATES LONG-TERM SAVINGS

ABOUT V V F. VVF formulates and manufactures soap products. The company was founded in Mumbai, India, in 1939, and acquired its first US facility in Kansas City, Kansas, in 2007. With 165 employees at the Kansas facility, VVF continues to build on its proud history of integrity and customer satisfaction.

THE CHALLENGE. VVF needed assistance in developing a sustainability strategy and identifying energy savings measures. VVF had clients with certain sustainability metrics as part of their supply chain criteria, and company leaders wanted to open new opportunities for working with them. They decided to take advantage of the Energy Efficiency Rebate Program offered by the Kansas Manufacturing Solutions (KMS), part of the MEP National Network™, in partnership with the Wyandotte County Economic Development (WyCO EDC) and the local utility, Kansas City Board of Public Utilities (BPU). The rebate program encourages manufacturing facilities to identify and implement energy savings improvements.

MEP CENTER'S ROLE. Over the course of about 18 months, KMS worked with VVF to identify, prioritize, quantify, and implement several opportunities in the facility for improved sustainability and cost savings. For instance, VVF replaced older metal halide lighting units in one production area with high efficiency LED fixtures, and updated old T12 fixtures in another production area to make use of LED sources. In addition, VVF installed a higher efficiency process chiller on the bar soap line after KMS identified an opportunity to replace an old and inefficient process chiller, used to produce a steady stream of chilled water to cool the soap in the molds.

KMS routinely collects economic impact numbers approximately six months after the completion of any project, including energy and sustainability projects. As a result of the energy improvements, VVF reports initial cost reductions of \$10,000, and cost avoidance savings of \$15,000. These are not one-time savings; they're bottom-line cost reductions that the company can count on year after year.

"VVF continually works to update and upgrade our processes and facilities, and the KMS energy and sustainability program helps us to make those needed improvements strategically. VVF looks forward to realizing bottom-line savings on an ongoing, annual basis as a result of this project."

-Phil Ismael, Controller

RESULTS



Cost reductions of **\$10,000**



Cost avoidance savings of **\$15,000**

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